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network 24 referred to above. Thus, one or more of dial-up telephone data lines, dedicated telephone data channels, a wide area network, and/or wireless data communication may be provided to interconnect system components. The constituents of the voice data management system may be more or fewer in number than those shown in Fig. 1. For example, more than one central dictation system may be connected to the PC 16.

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 2-7, 12-17, 30-34.

Amend claims 1, 9-11, 18-21, 29 and 35 to read as follows.

1. (Amended) A voice data management system, comprising:

a portable digital audio recorder which includes memory means for storing a plurality of voice data files, said memory means storing corresponding header data in association with each of the stored data files;

a personal computer;

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means for transferring one of said voice data files and the corresponding header data from the portable recorder to the personal computer;

an information processing device other than said portable recorder and said personal computer; and

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said other information processing device, for permitting transmission of data from said personal computer to said other information processing device;

wherein said personal computer reads said header data transferred to the personal computer and uses said header data to determine whether to transfer the

corresponding voice data file to said other information processing device;

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contd. wherein said header data that is used to determine whether to transfer the corresponding voice data file to said other information processing device is indicative of one of (a) an identity of said portable digital audio recorder; (b) a subject matter of the voice data file corresponding to said header data; and (c) a work type of the voice data file corresponding to said header data.

9. (Amended) A voice data management system, comprising:

a portable digital audio recorder which includes memory means for storing a plurality of voice data files, said memory means storing corresponding header data in association with each of the stored data files;

a personal computer;

means for transferring one of said voice data files and the corresponding header data from the portable recorder to the personal computer;

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contd. a central dictation system; and

means, interconnecting said personal computer with said central dictation system, for permitting transmission of data from said personal computer to said central dictation system;

wherein said personal computer reads said header data transferred to the personal computer, and on the basis of said header data, determines whether to transfer the corresponding voice data file to said central dictation system.

10. (Amended) A voice data management system according to claim 1, wherein said other information processing device is a voice mail system.

11. (Amended) A method of operating a voice data management system, comprising the steps of:

generating a voice data file in a portable digital audio recorder, said file including voice data and header data;

transferring said voice data file from said recorder to a personal computer;

reading the header data in said transferred voice data file; and

using the header data to determine whether to transfer said voice data from said personal computer to an information processing device;

wherein said header data that is used to determine whether to transfer the voice data to said information processing device is indicative of one of (a) an identity of said portable digital audio recorder; (b) a subject matter of the voice data file; and (c) a work type of the voice data file.

18. (Amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein the information processing device is another personal computer.

19. (Amended) A method of operating a voice data management system, comprising the steps of:

generating a voice data file in a portable digital audio recorder, said file including voice data and header data;

transferring said voice data file from said recorder to a personal computer;

reading the header data in said transferred voice data file; and

on the basis of the header data that has been read, determining whether to transfer said voice data from said personal computer to a central dictation system.

20. (Amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein the information processing device is a voice mail system.

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21. (Amended) A voice data management system, comprising:

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a portable digital audio recorder which includes memory means for storing a plurality of voice data files, said memory means storing corresponding header data in association with each of the stored voice data files;

a personal computer;

means for transferring said voice data files and the corresponding header data from the portable recorder to the personal computer;

a plurality of information processing devices other than said portable recorder and said personal computer; and

means, interconnecting said personal computer with said plurality of information processing devices, for permitting transmission of data from said personal computer to a selected one of said plurality of data processing devices;

wherein said personal computer reads said header data transferred to the personal computer, and on the basis

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of said header data, selects one of said plurality of information processing devices to receive a voice data file corresponding to said header data and transmits the corresponding voice data file to the selected data processing device.

29. (Amended) A method of operating a voice data management system, comprising the steps of:

generating a voice data file in a portable digital audio recorder, said file including voice data and header data;

transferring said voice data file from said recorder to a personal computer;

reading the header data in said transferred voice data file;

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using the header data to select an information processing device separate from said personal computer; and

transferring said voice data from said personal computer to said selected information processing device;

wherein said header data that is used to select said information processing device is indicative of one of (a) an identity of said portable digital audio recorder; (b) a subject matter of the voice data file; and (c) a work type of the voice data file.

35. (Amended) A method of operating a voice data management system, comprising the steps of:

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cont.
generating a voice data file in a portable digital audio recorder, said file including voice data and header data;

transferring said voice data file from said recorder to a personal computer;